

GERMAN CENSUS RECORDS 1816–1916

THE WHEN, WHERE, AND HOW OF
A VALUABLE GENEALOGICAL RESOURCE



ROGER P. MINERT, PH.D., A.G.

Copyright © 2016 by Roger P. Minert

All rights reserved. This book may not be reproduced in whole or in part, in any form (beyond that copying permitted by Sections 107 and 108 of the U.S. Copyright Law) without written permission of the publisher.

Printed in the United States of America by Family Roots Publishing, Orting, WA.

First Edition

Library of Congress Control Number: 2016934482

German census records from 1816 to 1916 / Roger P. Minert

p. cm.

Includes index.

ISBN-10: 1-62859-077-7 (soft bound)

ISBN-13: 978-1-62859-077-7 (soft bound)

ISBN-10: 1-62859-078-5 (hard bound)

ISBN-13: 978-1-62859-078-4 (hard bound)

1. German History – German Census.
2. Genealogy – German Research.

Family Roots Publishing Co. LLC

PO Box 1682

Orting, WA 98360

www.familyrootspublishing.com

GERMAN CENSUS RECORDS 1816–1916

THE WHEN, WHERE, AND HOW OF
A VALUABLE GENEALOGICAL RESOURCE

ROGER P. MINERT, PH.D., A.G.

RESEARCH ASSISTANTS

JEANNE G. MINERT

JILLINE MAYNES

Table of Contents

Acknowledgements	v
Introduction	ix
Chapter 1: A History of Census Records in the German States	1
Chapter 2: The Census of 1867: The Great Transition.....	9
Chapter 3: Census Records during the German Empire 1871–1918	16
Chapter 4: Census Records in the German States from 1816 to 1864	34
Chapter 5: Anhalt.....	36
Chapter 6: Baden	40
Chapter 7: Bayern [Bavaria].....	47
Chapter 8: Brandenburg.....	53
Chapter 9: Braunschweig [Brunswick]	59
Chapter 10: Bremen (Hansestadt Bremen)	64
Chapter 11: Elsaß-Lothringen [Alsace-Lorraine]	66
Chapter 12: Hamburg (Hansestadt Hamburg).....	71
Chapter 13: Hannover [Hanover]	72
Chapter 14: Hessen [Hesse]	79
Chapter 15: Hessen-Nassau [Hesse-Nassau]	84
Chapter 16: Hohenzollern	91
Chapter 17: Lippe	95
Chapter 18: Lübeck (Hansestadt Lübeck) [Luebeck].....	103
Chapter 19: Mecklenburg-Schwerin	107
Chapter 20: Mecklenburg-Strelitz.....	113
Chapter 21: Oldenburg	117
Chapter 22: Ostpreußen [East Prussia]	124
Chapter 23: Pommern [Pomerania]	128
Chapter 24: Posen.....	135
Chapter 25: Reuß ältere Linie [Reuss Elder Line]	139
Chapter 26: Reuß jüngere Linie [Reuß Younger Line].....	143
Chapter 27: Rheinprovinz [Rhineland Province]	148
Chapter 28: Sachsen-Altenburg [Saxe-Altenburg]	156
Chapter 29: Sachsen-Coburg-Gotha [Saxe-Coburg-Gotha]	159
Chapter 30: Königreich Sachsen [Kingdom of Saxony]	164
Chapter 31: Sachsen-Meiningen [Saxe-Meiningen].....	172
Chapter 32: Provinz Sachsen [Province of Saxony]	179
Chapter 33: Sachsen-Weimar-Eisenach [Saxe-Weimar-Eisenach].....	184
Chapter 34: Schaumburg-Lippe.....	188
Chapter 35: Schlesien [Silesia].....	193
Chapter 36: Schleswig-Holstein	197
Chapter 37: Schwarzburg-Rudolstadt.....	201

Chapter 38: Schwarzburg-Sondershausen	204
Chapter 39: Waldeck	208
Chapter 40: Westfalen [Westphalia]	212
Chapter 41: Westpreußen [West Prussia]	218
Chapter 42: Württemberg [Wuerttemberg]	222
Chapter 43: German Census Records 1816–1916: What Do We Know Now?	227
Chapter 44: Conclusions	229
Appendix A: Writing to Archives in Germany, France, and Poland	231
Appendix B: Conducting Census Research in Archives in Germany, France, and Poland	235
Appendix C: Interesting Documents Relating to German Census Campaigns	236
Appendix D: The States of Germany in 1871	246
Bibliography	247
Index	248

Acknowledgements

For some reason, I cannot recall precisely when the idea of creating a book about German census records became a necessity in my mind. Like other professionals who had worked for decades in the field of German family history and genealogy, I knew of and had studied only a few census records created in only a few states in Germany before the establishment of the German Empire in 1871. I too had wondered if there were any more in those states or in other states. It seemed likely somehow, even though I had never seen any original census records in Germany and had never heard or read of them when dealing with archivists and researchers all over the German-language territory. If census records were compiled and had survived, why were we not using them more often for genealogical research on either side of the Atlantic Ocean? By early 2014, a hypothesis had been born and a plan took shape very quickly.

Thanks to the assistance and encouragement of many individuals, my quest to learn about German census records has reached a successful conclusion. This enormous undertaking would not have been possible without the contributions of many individuals and groups. Perhaps the first of these were my friends and colleagues in the Family History Library. Marion Wolfert, Sonja Nishimota, and Fritz Juengling were immediately enthusiastic about the prospects that something important would emerge from this investigation. Indeed, my search for records began in that library and positive results were immediate.

Because I felt that conducting census research from a distance would simply not suffice, I formulated a plan for a sabbatical semester in Europe. My department chair, Richard Bennett, and college dean, Brent Top, both accepted the research design and goals and expressed their confidence that I could make the program a success. The Religious Studies Center at Brigham Young University provided some funding for housing in Europe and the University's

Kennedy International Center made a donation for travel in Germany. Those grants were crucial as we considered the enormous costs that would be incurred when my wife, Jeanne, and I planned to live and travel in Europe for six months.

Research assistant Jilline Maynes volunteered to help in the initial investigation into German census records found in the collection of the Family History Library in Salt Lake City. Her superb examination of the Library's catalog revealed perhaps one hundred collections of census documents microfilmed under relatively sporadic circumstances in unpredictable areas of Germany. She discovered many of those records under key words other than "census." The first several hundred emails sent to German archives during this study emanated from her keyboard. Without her assistance, I could not have completed the book during my stay in Europe.

Three of my family history students contributed in significant ways to the completion of this book. Annie Leishman was my office manager during the initial investigation into this topic. By assuming additional tasks, she allowed me to devote more and more time to pre-sabbatical preparations. Her successor, Lauren Wake, was equally helpful, keeping the office in order during my absence and working with me on the completion of the book after I returned from Vienna. Kelsee Jackson designed the excellent *PowerPoint* presentation I used to announce the results of my research at the RootsTech Conference in Salt Lake City in February 2016.

A great number of archivists in Germany responded to our letters and emails with a variety of answers. Many of those experts were key players in the process of identifying and copying census regulations and name lists. Many of them became our hosts when Jeanne and I accepted invitations to visit their archives and study the documents ourselves. It was a surprise to several of them when we found extensive

census lists in their collections—further evidence that this kind of record is not commonly used in genealogical research in Germany.

Leland Meitzler of Family Roots Publishing recognized early on that this book could make a major contribution to the literature of the German-American family history research community. From our first conversation on this topic to the appearance of the book, his enthusiasm has never flagged. Equally interested in the prospect of a book on this topic was Eckehard Brockhaus, the publisher of my handwriting book in the German language. He believed early on that a German version of this book would be as helpful to German researchers as it would to Americans.

Kayla Swan deserves my gratitude for the excellent design of this book and the attractive front cover; this is the third major work she has designed for me. Lauren Wake produced the back cover and Carly Case gave the text one final careful reading. I am indebted to them all for their fine work.

My partner in this study from start to finish is the same partner who has shared life with me for more than forty years—my wife, Jeanne. Her assistance was invaluable as we traversed Germany for seven weeks in search of archival documents. Her services in cataloging, copying, and archiving the documents we found were indispensable as she endeavored to create order out of chaos. Her willingness to devote substantial family resources to a genealogical topic I believe will be important to many people is inspiring. If Jeanne had a nickel for every time she has heard the word “census” . . .

Roger P. Minert
Provo, Utah
March 2016

Dedicated to my wife Jeanne nee Gardner and our daughters Melanie, Julie, Stephanie, and Cassie. We will appear as a complete family group in the U.S. Federal Census when the 1990 lists are released to the public in 2062.

Old genealogists never die—they just lose their census!

(seen by the author on a bumper sticker in Salt Lake City in 1993)

Introduction

Census Records and the American Family History Researcher

One of the principal record types used by family history researchers in the United States has long been the federal census. Mandated by the Constitution, enumerations have taken place in all states and territories since 1790. With the zero year as the standard date of enumeration, the procedures and record formats for a given census year were used uniformly everywhere. With the exception of the loss of the 1890 records in a tragic 1921 fire, the collection of original pages is virtually complete.

The federal census can be accessed with ease via microfilm and at several internet sites, such that researchers can easily find and study original pages. Indexes produced by individuals, societies, and commercial enterprises enable readers a quick look at ancestral candidates. The quality of those indexes is of course dependent upon the skills of indexers and extractors, but savvy users are aware of such restrictions. The fact that census pages represent a combination of primary and secondary records needs to be considered, but this aspect does not diminish the importance of federal census records as documents supporting the longitudinal study of a particular family. The most recent federal census available to the public was conducted in 1940.

Officially, the federal census was to be conducted for two purposes: the apportionment of seats in the House of Representatives and direct taxation (a practice since discontinued). The content of a standard census page increased every ten years until 2000, but was simplified in 2010. Although some residents may have been offended by the questions asked by enumerators over the years, modern researchers are grateful for the detail and hope it is complete and correct.

Additional census records have been compiled by states and territories, some at unpredictable intervals, but even those years can be determined by a study of reliable websites state by state. Some state census records offer even more exact details than the national enumerations regarding birth dates and places. Those records too are usually available for study in microform and with increasing frequency in websites.¹

German Census Records and Family History Research

Both novice family history researchers and experts who have seen census records in the United States often inquire about similar records in Germany. It would be easy to assume that every country in areas such as Europe not only made but maintains and even shares such records. Inquiries about German census records traditionally elicit such responses from experts as these: “We know that census records exist for the grand duchies of Mecklenburg-Schwerin and Schleswig-Holstein, but we don’t know about other German provinces. They probably conducted censuses as well, but we can’t tell you when or how or if such records still exist.” One of the most experienced genealogical researchers in Germany, Eike Pies, made this observation in 2015: “I’ve been doing genealogical and family history research for more than fifty years and have never seen a [German] census record.”²

The potential value of German census records to genealogists is substantial. Indeed, in areas where church records have been lost or before civil records were instituted in 1876, surviving census records will almost always be the only source of genealogical data on the common man. Where other primary documents exist, census records can serve to confirm what is already known.³

If in fact census records produced in the United States (and several other nations) are so important to researchers, it behooves us to determine the status of such records in historic German lands. It is beyond question that German states are the home to some of the finest church records compiled since the early sixteenth century and excellent civil records since the end of the eighteenth century. Would such a culture not also compile records of residents, mandated for whatever purposes, by governmental units? The most recent German publication on the topic was written by Rolf Gehrman in 2009 and offered this comment: “The history of [German] census records has not yet been written.”⁴

The Goals of This Study

It is time for the condition described by Gehrman to be addressed. If it is to be done correctly, the following questions should be treated:

1. In which German states were censuses conducted?
2. When were the censuses conducted?
3. For what purposes were the censuses conducted?
4. What content did each census include?
5. Do original census sheets exist?
6. Where are original census records stored?
7. Have original census records been copied (micro-filmed or digitized)?
8. How can researchers gain access to existing census records?

Before the establishment of the German Empire (sometimes called the Second Empire) in 1871, the term “Germany” referred to many independent states (called in turn kingdoms, grand duchies, duchies, principalities, provinces, or free cities). Each state was free to collect records about its citizenry by whatever schedule or manner desired. Fortunately, as will be discussed below, the compilation of census data following the Napoleonic Wars was not totally arbitrary. Important trends in census methods and content have been identified and can be presented as answers to all of the above questions.

However, despite the fact that a united Germany existed from 1871 until 1918 (the end of the First World War), the traditional (and in some cases intensely individual) identity of each of the Empire’s thirty-eight states is reflected in the censuses conducted there. In general, the nature of German census records is vastly different from records compiled in the United States under the same title.

Notes

- ¹ The Family History Library in Salt Lake City, Utah has probably the largest collection of state census records. Its catalog is available for study at www.familysearch.org.
- ² Eike Pies interview with Roger P. Minert on August 12, 2015 in Wuppertal, Germany.
- ³ Civil records (government vital records) were instituted in the areas under French military occupation from 1798 to 1815. Prussia introduced civil registration on October 1, 1874 and the same system was mandated for all of the German Empire beginning on January 1, 1876.
- ⁴ Rolf Gehrman, “German Census-Taking Before 1871.” (Rostock, Germany: Max-Planck-Institut für demografische Forschung, 2009), 4.

1

A History of Census Records in the German States

The Census in German History from the Napoleonic Wars (1815) to German Unification (1871)

The wars waged by and against French Emperor Napoleon Bonaparte from 1798 to 1815 involved the invasion and conquest of many German states. All of them independent and far smaller than France, those states were totally incapable of fending off the invader who subdued even the kingdom of Preußen at the eastern borders of the German-language territory. Napoleon exerted not only military but also political influence over the occupied territories, founding the kingdoms of Württemberg, Hannover, and Westfalen. On the other hand, he put an end to the Holy Roman Empire of German Nations, which action led to the self-demotion of its emperor Franz II (an Austrian Hapsburg) to Franz I of Austria and also to the de facto separation of Austria from Germany.

With the defeat of Napoleon and the ejection of French governors from German territories, the liberated states sent representatives to Vienna, Austria for what became known as the Congress of Vienna. That conclave in 1815 resulted in the re-drawing of many borders across the German-language territory of central Europe. Excluding Luxembourg, Switzerland, and Austria, there were forty German states in 1816. That number eventually increased to forty-two, then decreased to thirty-eight over the next fifty-five years.¹ With most other territories in Europe already existing in the form of kingdoms or empires, several German states longed for a union that would allow protection against invaders, as well as make them an economic force to be reckoned with. This pan-Germanic thinking led to the formation of several inter-state organizations.

The first census enumerations in German states were conducted in 1816 simply to allow the ruler

to know precisely the size of his state. Indeed, some states, counties, and even cities had conducted census campaigns as early as the seventeenth century (often under titles other than “census”). Rolf Gehrman provided this reason for those early censuses:

The growing interest of the early modern state, and especially of enlightened absolutist rulers in demographic measure as measure of the wealth of the state, led to a total count of the population. ... these counts were considered part of the yearly balance sheet of the state... The principle of yearly counting was maintained for some time after 1815.²

In several German states, counts were done in 1816 and repeated annually via a rather simple method: using the numbers from the previous year, officials determined how many persons had been born or had died by the end of the current calendar year and the numbers were adjusted accordingly. The data regarding births and deaths were taken from the records of the local churches. In only very rare instances were the names of residents recorded in those early enumerations.³

The first union of German states was the Germanic Confederation established at the conclusion of the Congress of Vienna. Henderson’s description of the Confederation is illuminating:

The Confederation was a *Staatenbund* and not a *Bundesstaat*—that is to say, it was a union of sovereign States in which unanimity was essential before joint action could be taken and it was not a federation of States in which the members gave up some of their sovereign rights to the central power.”⁴

The Confederation featured a parliament, but it was not a true legislative body and the men convening

in Frankfurt am Main were more like ambassadors than representatives wielding the power of the vote. There was initially no discussion of unification, because such a development would have necessitated concessions by some if not all of the rulers (mostly monarchs) whose states belonged to the Confederation.

The initial challenge encountered by the German states in the early days of the Confederation was one that the body had no power to address: customs. Merchants transporting goods on intra- and interstate routes were plagued by a myriad of rules, regulations, and fees that made life miserable for merchants and consumers alike. Some products crossed borders as many as ten times and the final prices to consumers rose to prohibitive levels. Of course, conditions were ideal for smugglers and states incurred high costs in policing their borders. The various solutions to the customs question eventually gave rise to the compilation of census records in Germany in the third decade of the nineteenth century.

The first attempt at coordinating customs regulations and revenues came from the largest member

of the Confederation—the kingdom of Preußen. However, Prussian action in this regard was perceived to be political as well as economic. According to Hahn,

...the process of unification in matters of customs was more than economic from the very beginning. Although the states involved in the establishment of customs unions were generally pursuing particularistic more than nationalistic aims, the customs unions dealt with the great political questions of the time—especially the matter of national unity and constitutional rights.⁵

The eastern provinces of Preußen enacted a customs union in 1818 and the kingdom's western provinces did likewise a year later. The two regions united in this effort in 1821, but no other states were interested in joining the movement under Prussian leadership—with the exception of the tiny Sachsen duchy of Schwarzburg-Sondershausen that found itself surrounded to seventy percent by Preußen; she joined in 1819 as a matter of self-preservation. The next

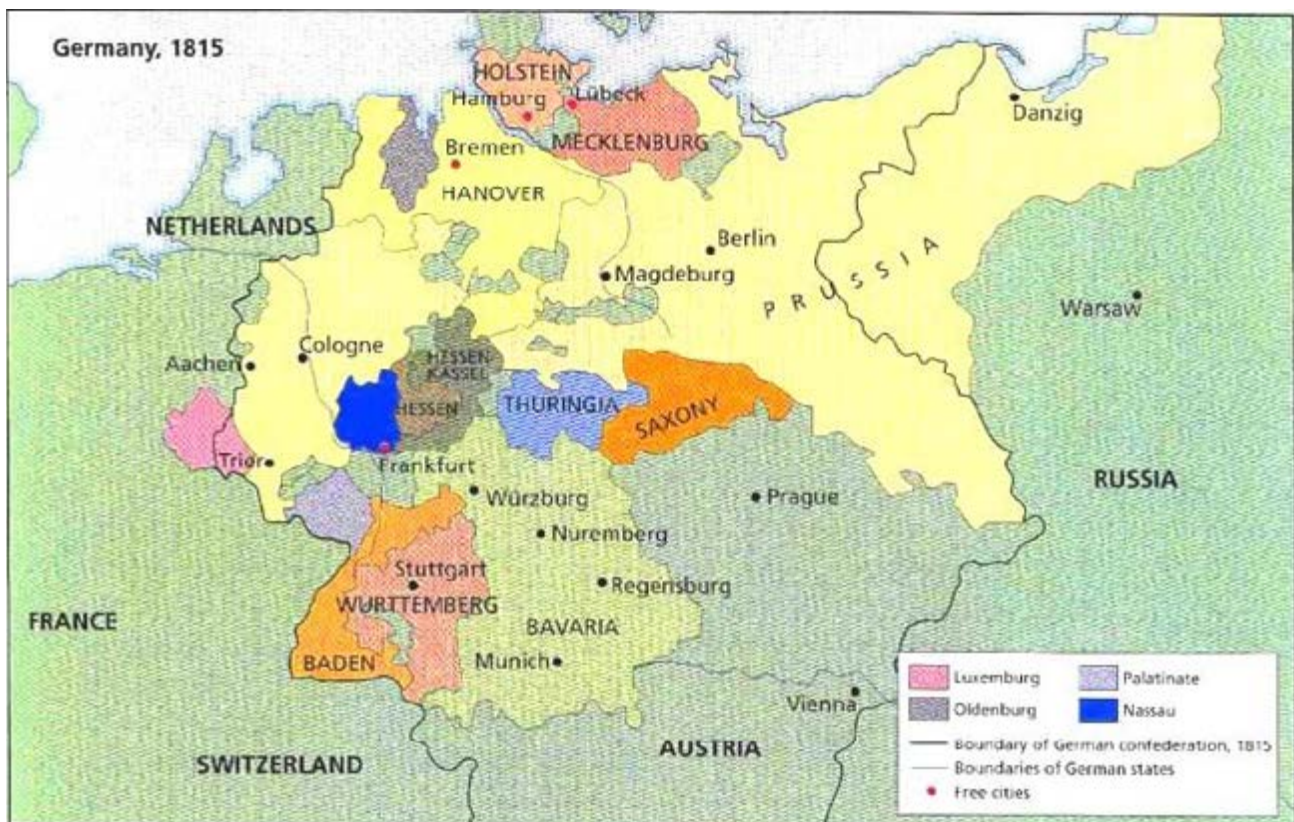


Figure 1. The German states following the Congress of Vienna in 1815 [<http://www.dukatz.com/maps/>]

state to align itself with the Preußen customs union was the county of Anhalt-Bernburg in 1826.

The grand duchy of Hesse (with the capital city of Darmstadt) was the first state to see benefits in joining the Prussian customs union and entered into negotiations in the late 1820s. In response to this development, two other states formed their own union in January 1828: Bayern and Württemberg; they shared many miles of borders and their treaty took effect on July 1, 1828.⁶ The Prusso-Hessian treaty was concluded just three weeks later and the era of competing German customs unions had begun.

It was precisely this movement that can be given credit for the expansion of German census records. On a strictly local level, census enumerations had taken place in several German-language territories of Europe well before 1800, but the records were compiled at various times, for different reasons, under numerous titles, and by different methods. Countless towns, cities, counties, districts, and states recorded the names of some or all residents under titles such as *Volkszählung* [census], *Bürgerbuch* [registry of citizens]; *Haushaltungslisten* [lists of heads of household], *Hauslisten* [lists of residents], *Einwohnerregister* [lists of residents], *Bevölkerungslisten* [lists of residents], *Untertanenverzeichnisse* [lists of subjects], *Wählerlisten* [lists of voters], *Konskriptionslisten* [military registry], *Seelenregister* [lists of parish members], and several others. Population figures and statistics are available in some form or another for several German states before 1815.⁷

In order for the officials of any customs union to distribute proportionately among the member states the fees collected at border stations, a census had to be conducted at regular intervals to establish the precise number of residents in each state. Thus the first systematic census enumerations in most German states were instituted to fulfill the requirements of a customs union. Only then could a coherent picture of German census records emerge—generally and specifically. Gehrman concluded that the basis for the first German census enumerations of the nineteenth century was not demographic but economic.⁸ As evidence of this assertion, throughout the twentieth century, census compilations often included the numbers of dwellings, livestock, and even fruit trees.

Heide		1	2	3	4
1	Jan. P. von Löff. Vater	1	1	2	
2	Jan. P. von Löff. Mutter		1	2	
3	Jan. P. von Löff. Sohn	1	1	1	1
4	Jan. P. von Löff. Tochter	1	1	2	
5	Jan. P. von Löff. Bruder	1	1		1
6	Jan. P. von Löff. Schwester	1	1	2	
7	Jan. P. von Löff. Enkel	1	1	1	1
8	Jan. P. von Löff. Nichte	1	2		
9	Jan. P. von Löff. Onkel	1	1	3	1

Figure 2. This 1720 census listed all heads of households with counts of residents by gender. [Stadtarchiv Heide, Schleswig-Holstein]

Many of the central and northern German states formed their own customs union in December 1828. However, Henderson suggests that they did so more in an effort to check the expansion of the two existing unions than to actually regulate interstate commerce.⁹ The states included in the *Mitteldeutscher Handelsverein* [Central German Commercial Union] were Hannover, Sachsen (kingdom), Hessen-Kassel, Nassau, Brunswick, Oldenburg, Frankfurt am Main, Bremen, and seven of the eight Saxon duchies (often referred to as Thüringen [Thuringia]). Those states agreed to not join any other union before 1834, but some of the smaller states in that organization began to defect as early as 1832.¹⁰

Thus by the 1830s, many of the states in the German Confederation were not only collecting census data annually for local purposes, but also reporting the statistics to their respective unions every second or third year. Those census records were kept solely for the purpose of the distribution of customs revenues and had nothing to do with such issues as parliamentary representation, military conscription, or taxation.¹¹ Due to the fact that some states employed different procedures, Michel concluded that such census records enjoyed only varying degrees of reliability.¹²

The Expansion of Customs Unions—and Census Records

Despite the fear on the part of some smaller German states that any expanding customs union that included Preußen would lead to greater political power on the part of the largest state in the German lands, many more states joined the movement.¹³ This resulted in the establishment on January 1, 1834 of a customs union called by one word without modifiers: the *Zollverein* [Customs Union]. The treaty establishing the *Zollverein* had been signed in 1833 and mandated that the agreement be extended after eight years.¹⁴ The *Zollverein* combined the two existing unions (Preußen/Hessen-Darmstadt and Bayern/Württemberg) with the kingdom of Sachsen, Kurhessen, and fifteen other small states, yielding a population of some 23.5 million.¹⁵ The member states were to enjoy the status of equal partners.

The foundational document stating the aims of the *Zollverein* and the regulations for census enumerations among the member states was published in 1834 and again in 1845.¹⁶ The opening paragraph justifies a census:

The member states have agreed that in order to ensure that the customs revenues collected by the member states (after the deduction of expenses, rebates, and discounts) are properly distributed, the population of each state is to be determined every three years. The procedure of the census should be identical in all states so that the distribution of revenues can be done equitably. The census is to be taken in December of every third year in every state.¹⁷

The original document mandated that a census be conducted every third year on December 1.¹⁸ (The 1845 revised version moved the target date to December 3.) Cities with more than 30,000 inhabitants would be allowed as much as three days to complete the process. If the date fell on a Sunday or a holiday, the next working day would be the target date. Other provisions stipulated that “every individual” be counted; exceptions were carefully defined. Many foreigners qualified as local residents and were to be included.

According to Hahn, the *Zollverein* “was not the product of one great foundational document, but rather a complex network of intertwined bilateral and multilateral treaties emerging from 1819 to 1833 with one common goal: a customs and commerce system with no internal fees and uniform external fees.”¹⁹ Nevertheless, several other German states refused to ally themselves with the *Zollverein* for a variety of reasons—the primary reason being a perceived net loss in revenue. Just four months after the founding of the *Zollverein*, Hannover and Braunschweig formed their own competing entity and called it the *Steuerverein* [Tax Union]. It began its function the next year and a census mandated on May 1, 1834 was to provide the population baseline.²⁰ The *Steuerverein* was soon expanded to include the northern states of Oldenburg (1836) and Schaumburg-Lippe (1838). During the 1830s, the other member states of the short-lived *Mitteldeutscher Handelsverein* joined the *Zollverein*. Most of the German states had taken sides by the end of that decade.

By 1840, only a few states were still resisting membership in either the *Zollverein* or the *Steuerverein*—principally Baden, Mecklenburg-Schwerin, Mecklenburg-Strelitz, Schleswig-Holstein, and the free historic Hanseatic port cities. However, the concept of a customs union proved to be advantageous and one by one most of the hold-outs acquiesced. During those years, the balance of economic

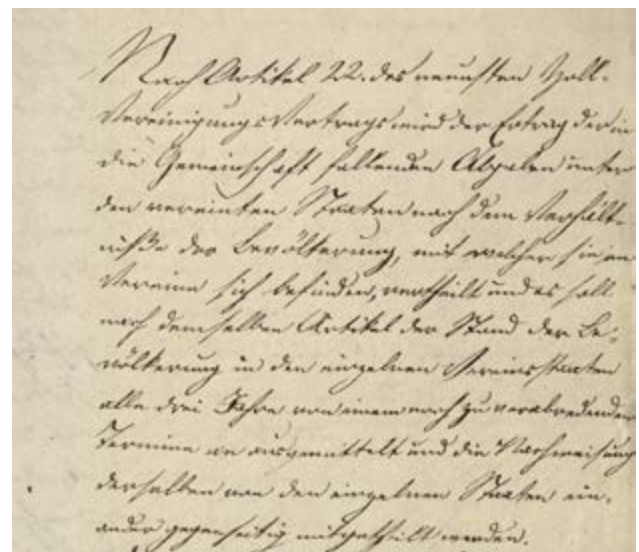


Figure 3. The Württemberg Ministry of Finance issued this statement in early 1834: “Member states of the *Zollverein* must conduct a census every three years.” [Hauptstaatsarchiv Stuttgart E146 33380]

power was shifting toward Preußen. Several members of the *Steuerverein* bolted to the *Zollverein* and by 1854 the former ceased to exist.²¹

The *Zollverein* treaty was extended in 1841, 1853, and 1865 and census records supporting the provisions of the treaty were compiled every three years in all member states beginning in 1834. Schleswig-Holstein joined the group in 1866 and by then all but the cities of Hamburg and Bremen and the two Mecklenburg duchies were on board. In 1867, the union's conference that was opened by King Wilhelm I of Preußen produced a new treaty. The handwriting on the wall was visible to most Germans: the *Zollverein* could soon be replaced by a Germany founded primarily on political principals and only secondarily for commercial purposes.

Although the distribution of customs revenues was accomplished based on recent population figures, census lists were introduced in 1840 because prior data had been primarily statistical and somewhat doubtful (having often been taken from police or tax registers). However, states were still free to collect even more information than required by either of the surviving customs unions.²²

The innovation of 1840 was crucial, resulting in the appearance of individuals' names on lists compiled throughout much of Germany. The individuals listed were usually the home owners or heads of households, the remaining inhabitants being represented simply by numbers of persons in gender and age categories.

The *Zollverein* did not mandate enumeration procedures until 1843 with this regulation: "A true counting of each person living in each house is to take place..." Enumerators were no longer allowed to simply use previously-collected listings of residents compiled for other purposes, such as residential registration or church *Seelenregister*.²³ The month of December was chosen by the member states as the best time for the collection of census data, believing that most people would be home in that season.

Gehrmann stated that listings of inhabitants by name were rare in the early census years and concluded that "...1846 must be established as the year of reference, and not 1834..."²⁴ However, many of the records identified in the current study were

produced in census enumerations before 1846 and do indeed show individual names of adults and even children (see examples below). By 1858, the *Zollverein* (then representing nearly all of the German states) mandated the use of comprehensive lists and this new standard would be maintained henceforth.

Precisely how much revenue was collected each year at border customs stations in those days is not a critical consideration in this discussion, but what was paid out is found in documents collected in the current investigation. For example, instructions circulated to towns within the grand duchy of Saxe-Weimar-Eisenach in 1858 and 1861 directed officials to remind heads of households that the *Zollverein* would allot 2 *Thaler* for each person correctly documented.²⁵ It can be assumed that there was not a state in Germany that could afford to undercount its population.

By 1864, the regulations stipulated that the names of all persons in all states be recorded on forms designed for that content.²⁶ That requirement was meant to provide for the counting of each person and simultaneously to prevent the counting of any person more than once. It is interesting to note that many German states had already introduced that content in their census records.²⁷

Michel elucidated the evolution of German census records in two eras—the first being 1816 to 1867. The lack of uniformity in census methodology described above makes his scheme appear logical. Another study traced the development through three phases over the same fifty-one years—the initial one being from 1816 to 1834.²⁸ That last year was chosen due to the founding of the *Zollverein*. Their second phase lasted from 1834 to 1852 when the *Steuerverein* broke down and the *Zollverein* emerged as the great customs power. The third phase lasted from 1852 to 1867 when the first all-German census was enumerated. Both studies portrayed the introduction of the every-name lists in 1840 (in Preußen) and 1843 (in the entire *Zollverein*) as a critical innovation in the content of census records.



Figure 4. Most of the northern German states were hesitant to join the Zollverein. [<http://www.paedagogik.net/wochenthemen/bismarck/zollverein.html>]

Census Records by State from 1816 to 1864

Documents exhibited in this book adequately illustrate the conclusion that German states were free to mandate and carry out census campaigns whenever needed until or unless they joined one of the customs unions mentioned above. Even if they belonged to an organization such as the *Zollverein*, they were free to collect more than the required data and to design their own enumeration pages. Kraus summarized this condition: “The methods used to collect the population data varied constantly, not only from year to year within a state, but also from state to state.”²⁹ A review of the table showing the extensive variation of contents of census enumerations in the duchy of Sachsen-Altenburg, e.g., supports that statement (see Chapter 28). At the opposite end of the spectrum is the principality of Schaumburg-Lippe: identical content items were used there for five consecutive census campaigns from 1839 through 1852, then a new set of items was recorded identically in four more enumerations from 1855 through 1864 (see Chapter 34). For details on each of the thirty-eight states of the German Empire, see Chapters 5–42.

The Regional Character of German Census Records

The census data compiled in accordance with the statutes of the various German customs unions from 1818 to 1864 represent the third most important source of genealogical data for all Germans (following church records and civil records).³⁰ During that time period, each census was mandated and enumerated by the province, reflecting the tradition of particularism—the primacy of the state over the nation. Even as late as 1916, instructions for the conduct of the census were issued by government entities in the capital cities of several states—not in the imperial offices in Berlin. For example, users of census records will note that the 1890 census was carried out by officials of the duchy of Anhalt for its citizens. The data belonged to the duchy and were simply shared with the empire. The content of the Anhalt census pages conformed to the requirements of the empire, but the format and layout of those pages was determined locally. In many respects, the census records of the thirty-eight states of the German Empire (1871–1918) are similar, but each retains its local flavor.

When comparing the data among the states, one must consider the different instructions given the enumerators before 1867, even when based on the regulations of the *Zollverein*. Those regulations allowed the member states a great deal of autonomy in determining their respective methodologies for the collection of data that were not well delineated by the *Zollverein*.

Gehrmann was correct regarding the census history he hoped would appear some day: “...a comprehensive history can only be written with the help of archival sources.”³¹ He also stated that “only the primary resources” can resolve questions regarding census methodology in Germany before 1867.³² The details presented in this book were compiled through an examination of the holdings of hundreds of provincial, regional, county, and city archives in modern Germany, France, and Poland. It would be close to impossible to fill all of the gaps in the tables presented in the following chapters, but determined researchers will likely make the attempt to do so.

Researchers in the United States and several other nations where every-name census records were compiled in the nineteenth century may wonder whether it is reasonable to expect to find such records in Germany. Gehrman wrote, “every census of this order before 1840 must be considered exceptional. Such exceptions exist, but they are rare.”³³ With the help of archivists in Germany, many such rare documents have been found and are shown in the provincial chapters. It is safe to assume that other similar documents can be found in the thousands of government archives in Germany as well as in other countries where former German territory is located—such as France and Poland.



Figure 5. As late as 1910, the grand duchy of Baden executed the national census under its own title. The forms used made no mention of the imperial government or the Statistical Office in Berlin to which the results were submitted. [Stadtarchiv Konstanz S II 12676]

Notes

- ¹ For example, the states of Hesse-Kassel, Nassau, and the free city of Frankfurt am Main merged to form the Prussian province of Hessen-Nassau in 1866. Henderson provides excellent detail regarding such changes in *The Zollverein*, 3.
- ² Gehrman, Rolf. “German Census-Taking Before 1871.” (Rostock, Germany: Max-Planck-Institut für demografische Forschung, 2009), 6.
- ³ When more formal census campaigns were mandated, the practice of simply adjusting the numbers of the previous calendar year using birth and death data was done separately as a mathematical tradition.
- ⁴ W. O. Henderson, *The Zollverein* (London: Frank Cass, 1959), 10.
- ⁵ Hans-Werner Hahn, *Geschichte des Deutschen Zollvereins* (Göttingen: Vandenhoeck und Ruprecht, 1984), 5. All translations from German by Roger P. Minert.
- ⁶ Henderson, *The Zollverein*, 41.
- ⁷ For statistical census years for all German states since 1816, see Antje Kraus, *Quellen zur Bevölkerungsstatistik Deutschlands 1815–1871* (Boppard am Rhein, Germany: Harald Boldt, 1980).
- ⁸ Gehrman, “German Census-Taking,” 6.
- ⁹ Henderson, *The Zollverein*, 57–61.
- ¹⁰ Henderson, *The Zollverein*, 68–69, 83.
- ¹¹ There were no representative assemblies constituted by population within the German Confederation.
- ¹² Harald Michel, “Volkszählungen in Deutschland: Die Erfassung des Bevölkerungsstandes von 1816 bis 1933,” in *Jahrbuch für Wirtschaftsgeschichte* 1985/II, (Berlin: DeGruyter), 80.
- ¹³ Most German monarchs of the era were ready and willing to exclude Austria from the pan-German political movement. The total resolution of the Austrian question did not come until the short but decisive 1866 war in which the Prussian army easily routed the Austrians in Bohemia (Königgrätz).
- ¹⁴ Hahn, *Geschichte des Deutschen Zollvereins*, 102.
- ¹⁵ Hahn, *Geschichte des Deutschen Zollvereins*, 76.
- ¹⁶ Centralbüro des Zollvereins, “Grundsätze über die Bevölkerungs-Aufnahme in den Zollvereinsstaaten nach den Vereinbarungen vom 31. Januar 1834 und vom 23.

Oktober 1845,” 1 (Berlin: Centralbüro des *Zollvereins*, 1845).

¹⁷ Centralbüro des *Zollvereins*, “Grundsätze über die Bevölkerungs-Aufnahme in den Zollvereinsstaaten,” 1.

¹⁸ A copy of the original document issued in 1837 indicated that the date of the campaign was chosen because it was likely that the greatest portion of the population would be at home rather than during some other season of the year.

¹⁹ Hahn, *Geschichte des Deutschen Zollvereins*, 79.

²⁰ On March 12, 1836, the kingdom of Hannover issued a proclamation regarding the new census required by the *Steuerverein* (*Gesetz-Sammlung für das Königreich Hannover, Jahrgang 1836*). The text of the *Zollverein* regulations can be found under the title “Hauptprotokoll der Vollzugskommission in München vom 14.02.1834, Artikel 22.”

²¹ Henderson, *The Zollverein*, 214–215.

²² Gehrmann, “German Census-Taking,” 12.

²³ Kraus, *Quellen*, 16.

²⁴ Gehrmann, “German Census-Taking,” 16.

²⁵ The author of the instructions was a Mr. Haberfeld, grand-ducal director of the second administrative district. The document bears the date October 28, 1861.

²⁶ Kraus, *Quellen*, 16.

²⁷ Gehrmann, “German Census-Taking,” 14.

²⁸ Statistisches Bureau Berlin, “Die Volkszahl der Deutschen Staaten nach den Zählungen seit 1816,” in *Monatshefte zur Statistik des Deutschen Reichs für das Jahr 1879* [2], *Die Statistik des Deutschen Reichs*, Vol. 37/2; urn:nbn:de:zbw-drsa_3721 (Berlin: Verlag des Königlich Preussischen Statistischen Bureaus, 1879).

²⁹ Kraus, *Quellen*, 3.

³⁰ Genealogies of royal and noble families trace descendants back with reliability to the 12th century in some cases, but those families represent less than one percent of the Germanic population.

³¹ Gehrmann, “German Census-Taking,” 4.

³² Gehrmann, “German Census-Taking,” 4.

³³ Gehrmann, “German Census-Taking,” 15.

2 The Census of 1867: The Great Transition

The census of 1867 was for all practical purposes the first national census. Almost all of the German states belonged to either the *Zollverein* or the North German Confederation or both and were thus required to participate. Each organization had been established primarily for economic purposes and required a periodic census of its members, but the methods and content were still not entirely uniform between the two organizations: the *Zollverein* counted only the local residents while the Confederation counted any person present in a given locality during the night before the target date as well as residents who were absent that night.

Among the thousands of documents collected during the compilation of this book, only one was found that emanated from the office of the “Chancellor of the North German Confederation” in Berlin.¹ Otto von Bismarck represented the *Bundesrat* [representative council] of that organization when he issued a decree on October 9, 1867, that a census be performed among the member states on December 3 of that year. The decree indicated that the census was important for two primary reasons: the funding of a common military force and the sharing of costs supporting the Confederation. The distribution of customs duties was thus no longer the prime motivation for a census campaign.

Bismarck’s text reads,

...considering the fact that the *Zollverein* has scheduled its next census for the end of this year anyway, and that all of its member states are to participate, the Royal Government of Preußen has prepared forms and instructions for a census and presented them to the *Bundesrat* with the recommendation that they be used throughout the Confederation.²

That same Bismarck was Prussian prime minister. Whether he was attempting to extend his sphere of

influence beyond Preußen or was genuinely offering to save other German states the effort needed to produce the census literature cannot be determined here. Whatever his intention may have been, he stressed the requirement that a line be devoted to each and every individual to include first and last names, gender, age, occupation or status, and citizenship. At the same time, locals away from home for certain purposes were specifically to be excluded from the count.

Gehrmann emphasized the national nature of the campaign that year: “The 1867 census has to be considered the first in the history of the Reich. Not only did all states participate, but the population counted was also ... the effective (*faktische* or *ortsanwesende*) population.”³ Michel stated that the 1867 enumeration represented the “development of the modern German census” and set the standard for subsequent census enumerations.⁴



Figure 1. The 1867 instructions issued by the government of Mecklenburg-Schwerin indicated that the first purpose of the census was to satisfy local statistical needs, the second to conform with *Zollverein* standards. [Stadtarchiv Wismar 4063]

The prime vehicle of the 1867 census was the *Haushaltungsliste* [household list] that was to be filled out by each head of household. Officials responsible for specific households in well-defined *Zählbezirken* [enumeration districts consisting of perhaps fifty households] distributed the sheets beginning November 30 and collected them on December 3 or (at the latest) the next day.⁵ Specific details were required for each person, and foreigners were asked

From the instructions given to town officials and individual enumerators, it is clear that all of the German states were veterans of previous census

Verzeichniß aller am 3. December 1867 in dem auf der Vorderseite bezeichneten Wohnhause anwesenden Personen.

I. Name und Familien-Namen jeder Person:			II. Geschlecht:			III. Alter:			IV. Religion:			V. Familienstand:			VI. Stand, Beruf oder Gewerbe:			VII. Dienstverpflichtung:			VIII. Mit der Kaiserliche von Kaiserliche:			IX. Sonstige Angaben:		
Name und Familien-Namen jeder Person:			Geschlecht:			Alter:			Religion:			Familienstand:			Stand, Beruf oder Gewerbe:			Dienstverpflichtung:			Mit der Kaiserliche von Kaiserliche:			Sonstige Angaben:		
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.	11.	12.	13.	14.	15.	16.	17.	18.	19.	20.	21.	22.	23.				
1.	Wingy	Holland	1	1828	ev.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.				
2.	Wingy	"	1	1833	ev.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.				
3.	Wingy	"	1	1833	ev.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.				
4.	Wingy	"	1	1833	ev.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.				
5.	Wingy	"	1	1833	ev.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.				
6.	Wingy	"	1	1833	ev.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.				
7.	Wingy	"	1	1833	ev.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.				
8.	Wingy	"	1	1833	ev.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.				
9.	Wingy	"	1	1833	ev.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.				
10.	Wingy	"	1	1833	ev.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.				

Drucker einer ausgefüllten Zählungs-Liste.																						
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.	11.	12.	13.	14.	15.	16.	17.	18.	19.	20.	21.	22.	23.
1.	Wingy	Holland	1	1828	ev.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.
2.	Wingy	"	1	1833	ev.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.
3.	Wingy	"	1	1833	ev.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.
4.	Wingy	"	1	1833	ev.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.
5.	Wingy	"	1	1833	ev.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.
6.	Wingy	"	1	1833	ev.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.
7.	Wingy	"	1	1833	ev.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.
8.	Wingy	"	1	1833	ev.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.
9.	Wingy	"	1	1833	ev.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.
10.	Wingy	"	1	1833	ev.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.

10

1916 German Empire Census

The following are the topics of the questions included in the census for 1916:

1. given name
2. surname
3. status or relationship to head of household
4. gender
5. birth date
6. marital status
7. citizenship
8. employment
9. employer or employee on July 31, 1914
10. type of business at place of employment on July 31, 1914
11. current occupation
12. current position at place of employment
13. current type of business at place of employment
14. if born before December 1, 1899 active military status
15. if born before December 1, 1899 reserve military status
16. status if military invalid
17. status if prisoner of war

aller in der Nacht vom 30. November zum 1. Dezember 1916 in der Wohnung

Anwesende Personen										wurde Person	
Reihenfolge der Einträge: Haushaltungsvorstand, Ehefrau, Kinder, andere Anverwandte, Besuch, Gewerbegehilfen, häusliche, gewerbliche, landwirtschaftliche Dienstboten, Zimmeradmieter, Schlafgänger und sonstige Wohnungsgenossen.											
Anwesende Nummer	Vorname	Familienname	Stellung im Haushalt oder Verwandtschaft zum Haushaltungsvorstande (Haushaltungsvorstand, Ehefrau, Kinder, andere Anverwandte, Besuch, Gewerbegehilfen usw.) (vgl. die Erläuterung zu Spalte 3)	Geschlecht durch 1 zu bezeichnen		Geburts-		Familiensstand ledig = l., verheiratet = verh., verwitwet = verw., geschieden = g.	Staatsangehörigkeit, zu welchem deutschen Bundesstaate oder welchem fremden Staate angehört	Gewerbe, Angabe der Tätigkeit	
				männlich	weiblich	Tag und Monat	Jahr				
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Beispiel zur Ausfüllung.	1.	Karl	Meier	Haushaltungsvorstand	1	—	5. Februar	1859	verh.	Preußen	Möbel
	2.	Frida	Meier	Ehefrau	—	1	10. Juni	1866	verh.	Preußen	—
	3.	Heinrich	Meier	Sohn	1	—	11. Mai	1891	l.	Preußen	Chemiker
	4.	Helene	Meier	Tochter	—	1	17. Dezember	1894	l.	Preußen	—
	5.	Ida	Frölich	Besuch	—	1	21. Juli	1911	l.	Österreich	—
	6.	Johannes	Krause	Aftermieter	1	—	26. August	1889	l.	Bayern	Klempner
	7.	Hermann	Schulze	Schlafbursche	1	—	12. Oktober	1881	verw.	Sachsen	Spediteur
	8.	Irena	Ceraski	zur Arbeit zugewiesen	1	—	34 Jahre alt	verh.	Rußland	Seefahrer	
1.	Johann	Margarete	Leinwandweber	1	—	4. April	1888	verh.	Preußen	Leinwandweber	
2.	Ernst	Margarete	Leinwandweber	—	1	28. März	1899	verh.	Preußen	—	
3.	August	Margarete	Leinwandweber	—	1	30. März	1916	ledig	Preußen	—	

Figure 18. The left-hand page of the 1916 census used in Sachsen-Provinz

[illegible]

Notes

- 33

V. Accessibility of Census Records in Braunschweig

Although it is not common to find state archives with substantial collections of census documents, the Niedersächsisches Landesarchiv in Wolfenbüttel has such records from several towns. The website with the catalog for that archive is <https://www.arcinsys.niedersachsen.de/arcinsys/start.action?oldNodeid=>.

Nevertheless, the more promising option for researchers is an inquiry to an archive in a town or a county (see Appendix A for suggestions on writing such an inquiry). As of this writing, no digital images of Braunschweig census records are known to be available on the Internet. The Family History Library has no microfilms of census records from this duchy, but a periodic search by town name might yield modern acquisitions.

VI. Selected Images of Braunschweig Census Records

Haus- fende N.	Bezeichnung des Hauses oder der Besetzung	Hausfende N. der Familie eines Hauses n.	Hausfende N. der Be- wohner eines Hauses n.	Vor- und Familiennamen der sämtlichen Bewohner eines jeden Hauses, einer jeden Besetzung	Stand und Gewerbe
	Linnepfaffen No 291			Haake sine	Misfmannt
1		1	1	Wilhelm von Hatten	Hofmann
2			2	Ernst	Dofen
3			3	Wilhelm	Ingen
4			4	Trindorf	Ingen
5			5	Louis	Erster
6			6	Georg	Ingen
7			7	Landerung, Pfeiffer	Ingen

Figure 1. 1843 Census Page from Helmstedt, Braunschweig (left-hand page)

Column headings: description of address of the dwelling; number of the household in that dwelling; number of person in that household; first and last name of each inhabitant; status or occupation [Stadtarchiv Helmstedt]

Lebens- jahr, worin jeder Ein- zelne sich befindet	Männer und Jüng- linge	Weiber und Jung- frauen	Kinder unter 14 Jahren		Religion	Zahl der Bewoh- ner eines jeden Hauses etc.	Datum der Aufnahme. Bemerkungen.
	über 14 Jahre		männlich	weiblich			
mit 3 Jahren							
36					Luth.		
14					"		
10					"		
4	1	2	2	2	"	7	
8					"		
2					"		
26					"		

Figure 2. 1843 Census Page from Helmstedt, Braunschweig (right-hand page)

Column headings: age at last birthday; males over 14; females over 14; males under 14; females under 14; religion; total residents in household; comments [Stadtarchiv Helmstedt]

VI. Selected Images of Sachsen-Altenburg Census Records

22

*Verzeichniß
der Seelenzahl & Viehzahl im Dorfe Hermsdorf
1835.*

<i>Name des Haushaltungshauptes mit Familienangehörigen</i>	<i>Männliche Personen</i>	<i>Weibliche Personen</i>	<i>Kinder</i>	<i>Gepfährte Personen</i>	<i>Personen des Gesinde</i>	<i>Personen des Vieh</i>	<i>Personen des Vieh</i>
Johann Gottlob Knoll	1.	5.	2.	—	6.	3.	
Herr Georg Friedrich Pöhl	2	1.	5.	—	6.	2.	
Herr Friedrich Kintzel	1	3	—	—	4	2.	
Herr Georg Wollf	2	4	2.	—	8	6	
Johann Gottfried Fischer	2.	3.	—	—	3	3	
August Dilling	1.	1	5	1	8.	6.	
Christiane Löffler	3.	1.	—	—	4	—	
Friedrich Flöckner	5	2	1	—	8	2	2
Michael Kraft	5	2	4	—	11.	6	—

Figure 2. 1835 Census Page for Hermsdorf, Sachsen-Altenburg

Column headings: name of head of household; adult males; adult females; children; servants; total residents; cattle; sheep [Thüringisches Staatsarchiv Altenburg, Kreisamt Eisenberg, Nr. 273, Bl.22]

Notes

¹ Statistisches Bureau Berlin, “Die Volkszahl der Deutschen Staaten nach den Zählungen seit 1816,” in *Monatshefte zur Statistik des Deutschen Reichs für das Jahr 1879* [2], *Die Statistik des Deutschen Reichs*, Vol. 37/2; urn:nbn:de:zbw-drsta_3721 (Berlin: Verlag des Königlich Preussischen Statistischen Bureaus, 1879), 16.

² Antje Kraus, *Quellen zur Bevölkerungsstatistik Deutschlands 1815–1871*, Band 1 (Boppard, Germany: Harald Boldt, 1980), 29, 301–306.

Index

- Alsace-Lorraine, see Elsaß–Lothringen
- Anhalt (Chapter 5), 6
- Anhalt-Bernburg, 3
- Archives
 - Conducting research in (Appendix B)
 - Copying census documents in, 232
 - Paying fees to, 232
 - Requesting permission to publish documents, 232
 - Writing inquiries to (Appendix A)
- Austria, 1
- Baden (Chapter 6), 4
- Bas-Rhin* [Lower Rhine], 66
- Bavaria, see Bayern
- Bayern (Chapter 7), 3, 4, 13
- Bayern–Württemberg Customs Union, 47, 222
- Bennett, Richard, v
- Bismarck, Otto von, 9
- Brandenburg (Chapter 8), 126, 137, 195, 220
- Braunschweig (Chapter 9), 3, 4, 18, 23, 72, 117
- Bremen (Chapter 10), 3, 5, 23, 103
- Bremerhaven, Bremen, 64
- Brigham Young University
 - Kennedy International Center, v
 - Religious Studies Center, v
- Brockhaus, Eckehard, vi
- Brunswick, see Braunschweig
- Bundestag* [parliament], 16
- Case, Carly, vi
- Census in Germany
 - Content in 1867, 11
 - First enumerations, 1
 - First for of Germany (Chapter 2), 5
 - In German states before 1867 (Chapter 4)
 - Non-participation in, 240, 243–244
 - Odd documents (Appendix C)
 - Proclamations, 236–238
 - Reasons for, 3
 - Recruitment of officials, 245
 - Regional character of, 6
 - Schedule of, 5
 - Schools closed during, 242
 - Terms associated with, 3
- Census, German Empire (Chapter 3)
 - 1871, 16, 18, 22
 - 1875, 23
 - 1880, 24
 - 1885, 25
 - 1890, 26
 - 1895, 27
 - 1900, 28
 - 1905, 29–30
 - 1910, 31
 - 1916, 32
- Census, United States federal, ix
- Church records, ix, x, 229
- Civil records (vital records), ix, x, 229
- Congress of Vienna (1815), 1, 34, 113, 124, 135, 193, 212, 227
- Controlliste* [household summary page], 16, 18, 19, 20
- Customs
 - distribution of revenues, 3
 - problems associated with, 2
- Denmark 197, 198
- East Prussia, see Ostpreußen
- Elsaß–Lothringen (Chapter 11), 23
- Engel, Ernst, 17
- First World War (1914–1918), 16, 66
- France, 7, 40, 66, 235
- French language
- Writing letters in (Appendix A)

- Franco-Prussian War (1870–1871), 16, 66
- Frankfurt am Main, Hessen–Nassau, 3, 84
- German language
- City website terms, 231
 - Names of states in German and English (Appendix D)
 - Terms associated with census, 3
 - Writing letters in (Appendix A)
- German place names (Appendix D), 34
- Hamburg (Chapter 12), 5, 18, 23, 103
- Hannover (Chapter 13), 1, 3, 4, 59, 117, 184, 188
- Hanover, see Hannover
- Hansestadt* Bremen, see Bremen
- Hansestadt* Hamburg, see Hamburg
- Hansestadt* Lübeck, see Lübeck
- Haushaltungsliste* [head of household list], 9, 16, 19, 23, 227
- Haut-Rin* [Upper Rhine District], Elsaß-Lothringen, 66
- Hesse, see Hessen
- Hessen (Chapter 14), 3, 4, 12, 23
- Hessen-Darmstadt, see Hessen
- Hessen-Kassel, see Hessen-Nassau
- Hessen-Nassau (Chapter 15), 3, 4
- Hesse-Nassau, see Hessen-Nassau
- Hohenzollern (Chapter 16)
- Jackson, Kelsie, v
- Juengling, Fritz, v
- Kingdom of Saxony, see Sachsen (Königreich)
- Kurhessen, see Hessen-Nassau
- Language, see French language, German language, Polish language
- Lauenburg, Schleswig-Holstein, 18, 23
- Leishman, Anne, v
- Lippe (Chapter 17), 23, 231
- Lippe-Detmold, see Lippe
- Lübeck (Chapter 18), 5
- Luebeck, see Lübeck
- Luxembourg, 1
- Maynes, Jilline, v
- Mecklenburg-Schwerin (Chapter 19), ix, 5, 23, 113
- Mecklenburg-Strelitz (Chapter 20), 5, 23
- Meitzler, Leland, vi
- Merthe-et-Moselle* [district], Elsaß-Lothringen, 66
- Minert, Jeanne, v, vi
- Mitteldeutscher Handelsverein* [Central German Commercial Union], 3, 4, 59, 72, 84, 156, 159, 172, 184, 201, 204
- Napoleon Bonaparte, 1
- Nishimoto, Sonja, v
- North German Confederation, 1, 3, 9, 10, 40, 53, 59, 71, 72, 79, 84, 95, 124, 128, 148, 197, 208, 218
- Oldenburg (Chapter 21), 3, 4, 23, 72, 188, 231
- Ortsliste* [town summary page], 16, 18, 20
- Ostpreußen (Chapter 22)
- Pies, Eike, ix, 229
- Poland, 7, 196, 221, 235
- Polish language
- Writing letters in, (Appendix A)
- Pomerania, see Pommern
- Pommern (Chapter 23), 126, 137, 195, 220
- Posen (Chapter 24)
- Preußen, 1, 2, 4, 5, 10, 11, 17, 18, 23, 72, 79, 91, 95, 124, 128, 135, 138, 179, 193, 212, 218
- Province of Saxony, see Sachsen (Provinz)
- Prussia, see Preußen
- Prussian Customs Union, 53, 128, 135, 148, 193, 212, 218
- Prusso-Hesse Customs Union, 3, 53, 59, 72, 84, 124, 128, 135, 148, 193, 212, 218
- Pyrmont, Waldeck 208
- Reichstag* [parliament], 16
- Reuß, ältere Linie (Chapter 25)
- Reuss Elder Line, see Reuß, ältere Linie
- Reuß-Greiz, see Reuß ältere Linie
- Reuß, jüngere Linie (Chapter 26)
- Reuß-Schleiz, see Reuß jüngere Linie
- Reuss Younger Line, see Reuß, jüngere Linie
- Rheinprovinz (Chapter 27), 124, 135, 193, 212, 218

Rhineland, see Rheinprovinz
 Sachsen-Altenburg (Chapter 28), 6
 Sachsen-Coburg–Gotha (Chapter 29)
 Sachsen (Königreich) [Kingdom of Saxony]
 (Chapter 30), 3, 4
 Sachsen-Meiningen (Chapter 31)
 Sachsen (Provinz) [Province of Saxony] (Chapter 32),
 126, 137, 195, 220
 Sachsen-Weimar-Eisenach (Chapter 33), 5
 Saxe, see Sachsen (various states)
 Saxon duchies, see Thüringen
 Schaumburg-Lippe (Chapter 34), 4, 6, 23, 72, 231
 Schlesien (Chapter 35)
 Schleswig-Holstein (Chapter 36), ix, 5, 18
 Schwarzburg-Rudolstadt (Chapter 37), 204, 205
 Schwarzburg-Sondershausen (Chapter 38), 2, 201, 203
Seelenregister, 208, 209
 Silesia, see Schlesien
Steuerverein [Tax Union], 4, 5, 59, 72, 103, 107, 113,
 117, 188
 Strasbourg, Elsaß-Lothringen, 66
 Swan, Kayla, vi
 Switzerland, 1, 40
 Thüringen [Thuringia], 3
 Top, Brent, v
Urlisten [lists of all persons by name], 73, 227
 Wake, Lauren, v
 Waldeck (Chapter 39), 18, 23, 231
 Westfalen (Chapter 40), 1, 135, 148, 193, 218
 Westphalia, see Westfalen
 Westpreußen (Chapter 41)
 West Prussia, see Westpreußen
 Wolfert, Marion, v
 Wuerttemberg, see Württemberg
 Württemberg (Chapter 42), 1, 3, 47
Zählbezirk [enumeration district], 9, 16
Zählkarte [card for one individual], 16, 18
Zollverein [Customs Union], 4, 5, 6, 9, 10, 16, 36, 40,
 47, 53, 59, 72, 79, 84, 95, 103, 107, 113, 117,
 124, 128, 135, 139, 143, 148, 156, 159, 164, 172,
 179, 184, 188, 193, 197, 201, 203, 204, 205, 208,
 209, 212, 218, 222

Professor Minert went to Europe for six months in 2015 to learn why American genealogists know very little about German census records. While there he learned that German genealogists know very little about German census records! His findings are presented in this book—the first examination of a record source that has been almost totally unused in the study of our German ancestors.

What the experts say about German Census Records 1816–1916:

What a happy ending! After all these years, family historians are no longer discouraged by futile searches into that formerly hidden and unorganized body of German censuses. Let's sit back and listen to the cheers—from both sides of the water!

—Shirley J. Riemer, author of *German Research Companion* and editor of *Der Blumenbaum*

Dr. Minert's stupendous work has opened up a new world for German researchers. No longer must one lament that census records are inaccessible or even "non-existent." He has made census records known and accessible. All German genealogists should have this book and make it a standard reference in their research.

—Dr. Fritz Juengling, Research Specialist, Family History Library

This is truly a groundbreaking work! Roger Minert refutes the conventional knowledge that censuses were not taken in most German lands, with numerous examples proving that they do exist. He not only describes censuses taken in the German Empire, state by state, but gives pointers on where to obtain them. This opens a whole new realm to explore.

—Ernest J. Thode, author and lecturer in Germanic family history

This book draws the attention of historians and genealogists to almost totally unknown resources. This is an amazing treasure for research in the German Empire in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Roger Minert introduces researchers to the development and nature of census records and he encourages us to seek out and utilize those records. This is a gigantic step for genealogy in Germany.

—Dirk Weissleder, President of the Federation of German Genealogy Societies

ISBN 978-1-62859-077-7



Item number: FR0650



\$34.95